



GreenvilleWater

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Greenville Water  
407 W. Broad Street, Level 2,  
Greenville, South Carolina  
August 5, 2025  
8:30 a.m.**

Commissioners of Public Works in attendance:

Chairman Phillip A. Kilgore, Debra M. Sofield, and Mayor Knox H. White. Absent: Vice-Chairman James W. Bannister and John DeWorken. A quorum was present.

Greenville Water Senior Staff in attendance:

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss, Chief Operations Officer Jeff Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Bob Schmidt, Chief Technology Officer Kenneth Frazier, Director of Operational Technical Services Dr. Jane Arrington, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mark Hattendorf, Director of Water Resources Elizabeth Pierczynski, Director of Business Services Steve Miller, Director of Information Technology Brad Treas, Director of Human Resources Lisa Bryant, Director of Engineering David Niese, Director of Finance Jacob Polson, Accounting Manager Brandi Cawthorn and attorney Adam Bach.

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The Regular Meeting of the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Greenville, SC was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Kilgore.

**1. WELCOME**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were presented.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Kilgore asked for questions pertaining to the consent agenda items. There being none, he called for approval of the items of the Consent Agenda which were the meeting minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting June 3, 2025, the Water Resources Report, New Development, and New Annexations. Commissioner Sofield moved, seconded by Mayor White, to approve the items of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. METER MADNESS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESOLUTION PRESENTED**

Chairman Kilgore turned to Chief Executive Officer Jeff Boss to introduce the current Meter Madness National Champion Craig Dalton. Mr. Boss had Mr. Dalton, and his wife stand with their new baby and shared that Mrs. Dalton was not able to travel to the competition because their baby was due at any time. Director of Business Services Steve Miller then explained the competition, Mr. Dalton's success at the South Carolina

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Environmental Conference, and his advancement to the national competition in Denver, Colorado. There were over 30 of the nation's best performers, who also placed No. 1 in their state competing in Denver. Mr. Dalton not only won 1<sup>st</sup> place, but he broke the all-time record, which dates back to the 90s. His time was 28.09 seconds.

Chairman Kilgore presented Mr. Dalton with a resolution in his honor.

## **5. ANNUAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT**

Chairman Kilgore moved to the next item, welcoming Grant Davis of Mauldin & Jenkins Certified Public Accounts, LLC to present the annual financial and compliance audit. Mr. Davis spoke of the engagement team and the results of the 2024 audit. Greenville Water received an unmodified (“clean”) opinion on compliance for two major programs and basic financial statements with no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control reported. The two major programs were:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (\$17.6 million)
- U.S. Department of Treasury – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds or “ARPA” (\$11 million)

Mr. Davis presented the required communications as well.

## **6. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Chairman Kilgore welcomed T.Y. Lyn International Associate Vice-President Katie Richardson to present a strategic plan update. Along with Ms. Richardson was Mr. Andy Richardson, former CEO/Chairman of a global engineering company and past president of American Water Works Association (AWWA). Ms. Richardson explained that the presentation would be a high-level summary of the strategic plan process and the status to date. As part of the summary, the proposed vision, core values, mission and goal focus areas would be unveiled.

Mr. Richardson took the Commission through the process of planning and Ms. Richardson presented the vision, core values, mission and strategic areas. The rest of the process will be to fill in more specific goals underneath each of the goal focus areas. Then implementation plans will be developed to take everything forward. The information presented was to ensure everyone was on the same page about the vision and the mission to be weaved into the operations plans developed over the next few years.

Mr. Boss stated the information would be distributed to the Commission for feedback. There was no action required at this time. The information was presented as a status update.

## **7. UPDATE ON FEMA PROGRESS, GRANTS AND WATERSHEDS**

Chairman Kilgore asked Chief Administrative Office Dr. Bob Schmidt to lead the Commission through the latest FEMA activity. Dr. Schmidt covered three separate areas, which were the Public Assistance (PA) Grants, Hazard Mitigation (HM) opportunities and the Table Rock complex fire (FMAG).

Two large activities that are ongoing currently are assessments of roads at both watersheds and massive debris cut, push, and chip-in-place to clear those roads. Engineering firms started the roads assessments at the end of July. The debris contractor also began in early July.

Meetings have been held with SC EMD Senior Leadership, Senate Staff, and FEMA Region 4 Infrastructure Branch Director in Columbia and Greenville. Bi-monthly meetings are held with SC EMD and FEMA at Greenville Water.

Dr. Schmidt presented maps of North Saluda and Table Rock road ranking priorities and an update on active grants, loans and pending loans related to the watershed restoration.

## **8. CROSS CONNECTION UPDATE**

Chairman Kilgore called on Director of Engineering David Niesse to provide a Cross Connection Control update. Mr. Niesse recalled a presentation in November of 2024 regarding updating the Cross Connection Control process. Mr. Niesse covered the highlights of that presentation, stating that the Department of Environmental Services prefers the system to be at 90% compliance. At the end of 2024, Greenville Water customers were at 85% compliance. At that time, staff presented a plan to bring this up to 90% compliance. The fees were changed to assess a \$500 penalty when the cross-connection testing was not completed on time. A third party was hired to ensure compliance.

In essence, the changes to the policy are working Mr. Niesse stated. January through May of 2025 the system ranged from 94 to 99 percent compliance. The biggest issue that has prevented 100% compliance is gaining access to some of the places that are closed or locked which requires coordination to test the devices.

Lessons have been learned through the update in the policy. There are accounts with missing addresses, which has necessitated clean up of accounts. Responses from customers have included a request for different methods of communication. Greenville Water has begun sending postcards and emails as well as the letters originally being sent. Also, in speaking with customers some do not understand what backflow and cross connection are. Staff will begin putting out educational materials to help educate customers. Next steps will be to begin working on fire lines.

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## **9. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Mr. Boss directed the Commissioners to new signage that was installed in the Administrative building and a new mural added to the team member breakroom on the lower level. The mural is an entire wall of key Greenville Water elements painted by Intern Abigail Welchel.



There were 441 team members and family that signed up for the Greenville Water family picnic at the Greenville Drive stadium.

Team members have been testing the new phone system, and the go live date is 8:00 am Friday, August 8, 2025. This new system will provide a greater capability of making sure the customers' needs are met, as well as metrics for team members.

A ribbon cutting took place with The City of Pickens in celebration of the completion of Phase I of the Adkins 60-inch transmission main. Mayor Scipio is really excited about the connection which strengthens existing resources and infrastructure to deliver affordable, high-quality, reliable water.

The bear hair snare study is complete, and the samples have been sent for testing. An update will be provided in an upcoming meeting.

Staff has been keeping an eye on PFAS regulation, transportation relocation costs, and fluoride regulation in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

## **10. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

No comments were presented.

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**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 9:36 a.m.

  
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Phillip A. Kilgore, Chairman

  
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Kimberly Haulter, Executive Assistant

**RESOLUTION HONORING CRAIG DALTON FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE  
IN THE 2025 AWWA METER MADNESS CHALLENGE**

**WHEREAS**, Greenville Water is committed to excellence in public service and recognizes the outstanding achievements of its employees who exemplify skill, dedication, and professionalism in their roles; and

**WHEREAS**, Craig Dalton, Field Services Specialist, demonstrated exceptional technical expertise and composure under pressure to earn first place in the South Carolina American Water Works Association (SCAWWA) Meter Madness Challenge in March 2025 at the South Carolina Environmental Conference (SCEC), defeating the reigning state champion; and

**WHEREAS**, by securing the state title, Mr. Dalton earned the honor of representing the state of South Carolina at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) National Meter Madness Challenge during the Annual Conference & Expo (ACE); and

**WHEREAS**, on June 9, 2025, in Denver, Colorado, Mr. Dalton achieved national recognition by winning the AWWA Meter Madness Challenge, outperforming more than 30 state champions from across the country in a fast-paced, high-stakes competition that tests speed, accuracy, and expertise in water meter assembly. Dalton's winning time of 28.09 seconds secured him first place and set the fastest recorded time in competition history for modern mechanical meters; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Dalton's achievement brings pride and distinction to Greenville Water and reflects the high level of professionalism and skill upheld by our team;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Commissioners of Greenville Water do hereby commend and congratulate Craig Dalton for his outstanding accomplishments in both the state and national Meter Madness competitions, and express sincere appreciation for his dedication, representation, and contribution to the continued excellence of Greenville Water.

**Respectfully submitted this fifth day of August, 2025**

The Commissioners of Greenville Water

